

**STATE PLAN FOR  
INDEPENDENT LIVING  
(SPIL)  
AMENDMENT**

**Chapter 1, Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973,  
as Amended**

**STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES (SILS) PROGRAM  
PART B**

**Centers for Independent Living (CIL) Program  
Part C**

**FISCAL YEARS 2010 - 2013**

## Part II: Narrative

### *Section 3: Design for the Statewide Network of Centers*

#### 3.1 Existing Network

Provide an overview of the existing network of centers, including non-Part C-funded centers that comply with the standards and assurances in section 725 (b) and (c) of the Act, and the geographic areas and populations currently served by the centers.

There are currently six Part C centers for independent living in the State of Tennessee: (1) The Memphis Center for Independent Living serving Shelby County, comprised of approximately 168,706 persons with disabilities; (2) the Jackson Center for Independent Living serving 8 counties (Madison, Carroll, Crockett, Gibson, Henderson, Chester, Hardeman, Haywood), comprised of approximately 59,669 persons with disabilities; (3) the Center for Independent Living of Middle Tennessee serving 7 counties (Cheatham, Davidson, Robertson, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson, Wilson), comprised of approximately 191,632 persons with disabilities; (4) the Tri-State Resource and Advocacy Center serving 10 counties (Bledsoe, Bradley, Grundy, Hamilton, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Polk, Rhea, Sequatchie,) with approximately 118,764 persons with disabilities; (5) disability Resource Center located in Knoxville serving Knox County, comprised of approximately 71,656 persons with disabilities; (6) Training, Advocacy, Referral & Peer Support Center serving 8 counties (Benton, Dickson, Henry, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Stewart and Weakley) with approximately 59,084 persons with disabilities.

The SILC and consumer-controlled entities will increase capacity in Tennessee by utilizing existing Part B funds to provide IL services in the unserved areas identified and prioritized in the SILC's most recent needs assessment with emphasis on the Northeast Tennessee.

#### 3.2 Expansion of Network

Describe the design for the further expansion of the network, including identification of the unserved and underserved areas in the State and the order of priority for serving these areas as additional funding becomes available (beyond the required cost-of-living increase).

Plans for expanding the network of centers for independent living are to have as many established throughout the state as necessary in order to cover relatively small geographical areas in such a way as to maximize efficient use of funding. This will allow more persons with significant disabilities to participate in IL services because of easier access to CILs. Tennessee is a very rural state with virtually no access for many with disabilities to transportation and the electronic superhighway.

Part C ARRA funds were used for competition to establish the new Part C center, Training, Advocacy, Referral & Peer Support (TARP), in the following North West/ Middle Tennessee counties: Benton, Dickson, Henry, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Stewart and Weakley, at \$200,000 a year over a 5 year period. These counties include approximately 59,084 persons with disabilities. The remaining part C ARRA funds are being distributed equally between four (4) of the existing part C centers: Center for Independent Living of Middle Tennessee, Disability Resource Center, Jackson Center for Independent Living and Memphis Center for Independent Living to address the underserved populations in their service areas. No ARRA Part C funds were distributed to the Chattanooga center, Tri-State Resource and Advocacy, Inc., because that center declined to participate in discussions with the DSU, SILC, and the other Part C centers regarding the distribution of the ARRA Part C funds.

Other priority counties identified below will be considered for a new CIL when a consistent level of IL State and Federal funding is available.

Top five priority counties:

- (1) Northeast Tennessee counties of Sullivan, Johnson, Carter, Washington, Unicoi, Greene, Hawkins, Hancock, Claiborne;
- (2) East Tennessee counties of Campbell, Cocke, Union, Anderson, Roane, Loudon, Monroe, Blount, Sevier, Jefferson, Grainger and Hamblen;
- (3) Cumberland Plateau including counties of Morgan, Scott, Pickett, Clay, Macon, Jackson, Smith, Dekalb, Trousdale, White, Cannon, Van Buren, Cumberland, Fentress, Overton, and Putnam;
- (4) South Central counties including Hickman, Perry, Maury, Lewis, Wayne, Lawrence, Giles, Marshall, Lincoln, Moore, Bedford, Coffee, Franklin and Warren;
- (5) West (North/South) Tennessee counties of Obion, Lake, Lauderdale, Tipton, Fayette, McNairy, Hardin, Decatur and Dyer;

Additional CILs will be started after a CIL -- established with seed funding of \$100,000 annually reaches \$200,000 in Part C Annual funding.

The most significant barrier to completion of the network of CILs continues to be a lack of funding. The SILC will support the CILs in pursuing funding from the State for independent living services.

If additional regular Part B funds become available in an amount less than \$100,000, that funding will be distributed in an equitable manner as determined by the SILC and DSU to Part C centers actively participating in the SPIL and the network of centers to provide outreach services to the unserved in the top five priority areas and/or underserved areas as determined by the SILC.

If additional regular Part C funds become available in an amount less than \$100,000, that funding will be distributed in an equitable manner as determined by the SILC and DSU to all Part C centers in the state that are actively participating in the SPIL and the network of centers.

The SILC and DSU are recommending that Title VII, Part-C funds allocated to a Tennessee center remains in Tennessee in the event of the closing of one of the network of Part C funded centers. The funds will be used to re-establish a new center in the catchment areas where the Part-C funded Center was closed.